

Marshland Rural District Council.

January 13th 1945.

To the Chairman & Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

Herewith my abridged annual report, in conformity with Ministry of Health instructions.

The health of the District during 1943 continued satisfactory. Infectious diseases were fewer in number than usual. Notifications were received as follows:-

Scarlet Fever.	32
Diphtheria.	6
Measles.	89
Whooping Cough.	8

Scabies and Impetigo, once so prevalent as the result of the large numbers of evacuated children, are now much less common.

There are no figures for Venereal Diseases available, but there is no reason to think there is any marked increase. Tuberculosis showed no increase either, a total of 15 new cases being reported during the year, 6 pulmonary and 9 non-pulmonary.

The figures for Diphtheria Immunisation are still below what is required to protect the community adequately as a whole, and small the number of cases during the year should give no grounds for complacency. There has been an increase recently in inoculations, but a far higher percentage of immunised in the child population is necessary before the situation can be said to be satisfactory.

Water Supply.

There are thirteen parishes in the District. In the northern part the Council's water mains supply the parishes of Clenchwarton, Terrington St. Clement, Tilney All Saints, Walpole St. Andrew and part of Walpole St. Peter. About 60% of the population of these parishes are supplied from the Council's mains.

The Wisbech Water Company's mains pass through the following parishes--Part of Walpole St. Peter, Tilney St. Lawrence, Terrington St. John, Marshland St. James, West Walton, Walsoken, Emneth, Outwell and Upwell. About 55% of the population of these parishes are supplied from the Wisbech Water Company's mains.

The houses in the various parishes which are not supplied with mains water have to rely on rain water for drinking purposes. Acute shortages of water are experienced where the population has to rely on rain water in times of drought.

Water extension schemes are being considered by the Council so as to extend the water mains through those parts of the district hitherto unsupplied.

I have the honour to be
Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

A.J. Hawes M.B., D.P.H.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

